

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 101044

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 101044

NESCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT QUITO 2963 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USIA 23 APR

QUOTE

UNCLAS QUITO 2963

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO MEETING ON COMMUNICATIONS POLICIES IN LATIN
AMERICA

REF: (A) STATE 82741; (B) QUITO 2632

1. EL COMERCIO APRIL 23 CARRIED A STORY REPORTING THAT THE
ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT "DESISTED" FROM ORGANIZING THE
MEETING ON COMMUNICATIONS POLICIES IN LATIN AMERICAN AND
THE CARIBBEAN TO BE HELD HERE IN JUNE UNDER UNESCO AUSPICES.

2. THE PAPER NOTED THAT THE DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT WAS
MADE KNOWN YESTERDAY THROUGH "OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN", WHO
CONFINED THEMSELVES TO STATING THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD BEEN
INSTRUCTED TO INFORM UNESCO OF THIS DECISION.

3. EL COMERCIO STORY WENT TO COMMENT THAT THE ABOVE-MENTIONED
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MEETING HAS BEEN THE OBJECT OF CRITICISM FROM THE INTER-AMERICAN

PRESS ASSOCIATION (IAPA) AND INTER-AMERICAN BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION (IABA), WHO RAPPED UNESCO FOR PROPOSING STATE OWNERSHIP OF COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT AT THE IAPA MEETING A UNESCO DIRECTOR REPUDIATED ONE OF THE DOCUMENTS IN WHICH MENTIONED GOVERNMENT TAKE-OVER.

4. "IN ANY CASE," THE ARTICLE CONCLUDED, "THE IAPA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL BE EXTREMELY VIGILANT AND WILL SEND A DELEGATION TO THE MEETING IN QUITO."
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